

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending. The specification has been amended. In addition, Fig. 4 has been amended. The amendment to Fig. 4 and to the paragraphs on pages 14 and 15 of the specification are to reflect the clock adjustment time as both forward and back when the device is awakened from sleep processing depending upon the time of year. The amendments make the disclosure consistent with what is stated on page 15, lines 29-32; page 9, line 11-page 10, line 3; and the description of Fig. 2 starting on page 12, line 26, and the description of Fig. 5, starting on page 16, line 26. Thus, the amendments do not enter new matter.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representative by Examiner Park in the September 1, 2004 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over FAX 2000L Operators' Manual published by Ricoh in October 1998 (hereinafter "Manual"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant's invention of claim 1 is directed to an information processor comprising, among other elements, an adjustment device that adjusts an operational condition related to the independent operating device, at a predetermined adjustment time, as an operation executed by the control device; and a condition input device that inputs a recovery condition to the operational condition switching device, so as to switch the control device from the sleep condition to the active condition, at the predetermined adjustment time when the control device executes the adjustment or at a predetermined time before the predetermined adjustment time.

Applicant's claim 12, the other independent claim, calls for an information processor comprising, among the other features, the input/output monitor switches the control device from the sleep condition to the active condition at an execution time when the control device executes

a predetermined operation or at a predetermined time before the execution time. The Ricoh device does no such thing.

Applicant's invention calls for switching a control device from a sleep condition to an active condition at either the predetermined adjustment time or a predetermined time before the predetermined adjustment time or at an execution time to control a predetermined operation or a predetermined time before the execution time. The Ricoh device, on the other hand, is concerned with the heating element, which is a very extensive energy user, and methods to reduce the power consumption. To do such, the Manual describes an energy saver key 12. The energy saving allows, after a predetermined time expires, which is normally a five minute period following a print operation, the apparatus to go into an energy saving mode. The energy saving mode either turns the heater, of the fixing device, completely off or reduces the heater to half power. When turned completely off, obviously the heater of the fixing device allows the roller in which it is mounted to cool to room temperature. The half power state allows the heated roller to cool down but can be returned to full heat more rapidly.

Thus, when a message is received or copying is requested, when in the energy saving mode there is some delay before printing occurs for the fixing roller to be returned to full heat. Further, such an action does not directly return the apparatus to a full active condition at an execution time to execute a predetermined operation or at a predetermined time before the execution time as found in claim 12 or switches the control device from the sleep condition to the active condition, at a predetermined adjustment time, when the control device executes the adjustment or the predetermined time before the predetermined adjustment time. As described in the Manual, the copying or printing can only go forward or commence when the fixing roller has reached the appropriate fixing temperature. This varies depending upon room conditions and the temperature of the fixing roller at the time it is called upon to perform. Further, the Manual states the device is in an operating mode for all purposes but printing when in the

energy saving mode, it is not in a sleep mode. Lastly, if one wants to adjust this energy saving period then one must call the service representative. The operation of the Ricoh device in the energy saving mode is found on pages 69 and 70 of the Manual.

The Ricoh device also has a power saving timer which allows setting a sleep time. In the sleep mode, specific times are set for sleep and during that time, although incoming calls can be received and stored in memory, apparently no other actions take place. It is unclear from the Manual whether that only applies to incoming calls containing facsimile messages or whether the phone associated with the device is also disabled from the voice mode. In any case, there is no activation at any predetermined adjustment time to execute an adjustment or at a predetermined time before a predetermined adjustment time as found in claim 1 or switching the control device from a sleep condition to an active condition at an execution time when the control device executes a predetermined operation or at a predetermined time before the execution time. When the Ricoh device is placed into the sleep time, the device remains in that condition until it reaches the time to awaken, i.e., turn the heater on (pgs. 71, 72). In this sense, the Ricoh device would appear to suffer the problems discussed in Applicant's Description of the Related Art in that it does not indicate any actions take place other than storing incoming calls in the memory until the memory is filled (see pages 71 and 72 of the Manual).

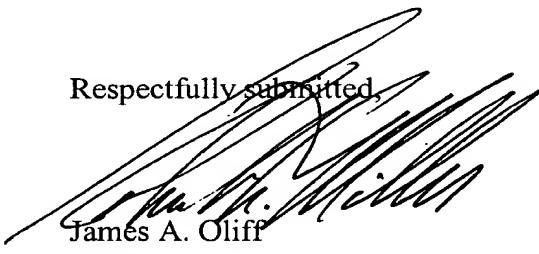
Page 168, of the Manual, indicates that daylight-saving time or summer time as function 62 can be turned on or off. However, it indicates it is a manual operation that allows one to, when the clock is set, move it to either daylight-saving time or back when it ends. The Manual specifically says "You can easily move the clock forward when daylight-saving time begins, and back when it ends." (emphasis added). Thus, there is no indication that this is an automated feature that qualifies as one of Applicant's predetermined adjustment times (claim 1) or a predetermined operation as found in Applicant's claim 12.

As the Manual does not disclose the subject matter of Applicant's claims 1 and 12 it cannot disclose the subject matter of the remaining claims as they depend therefrom. Further, the dependent claims contain additional features that are specific to time such as found in claims 2, 3, 9 and 13 or the independent clock device such as found in claim 22 or the ability to control whether things are done in a manual or an automatic state as found in many of the other dependent claims. Thus, the dependent claims are allowable for the reasons the independent claims are allowable as well as the additional features recited therein.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-33 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Robert A. Miller
Registration No. 32,771

JAO:RAM/kap

Date: September 27, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--